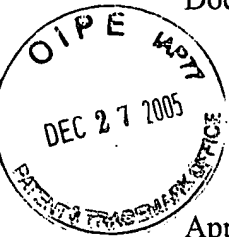


DFW

Docket No. 440-001



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Scott Wilkings et al.)
Serial No.: 10/670,404) Art Unit: 1725
Filing Date: September 25, 2003) Examiner:
For: MONO-BLOC BRAKE CALIPER AND) Len Tran
EVAPORABLE PATTERN FOR CASTING SAME)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as **First Class Mail** in an envelope addressed to :
Commissioner of Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
on December 19, 2005

By: *Heidi F. Markova*

RESPONSE

This is in response to the outstanding office action of October 5, 2005.

The indication that claims 23 to 40 are allowable if rewritten in independent form is gratefully acknowledged. Claims 32-40 do not require rewriting. It is respectfully requested that the rewriting of claims 23 to 31 be held in abeyance until agreement is attained on the allowance of claim 22 which has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mori et al (U.S. Patent 6,367,595). The examiner states that the "inner shaped surface [of Mori] includ[es] at least one inner cylindrical surface, first and second cast in passageways." Regarding Figure 1, the patentee states at column 3, lines 17-19:

Obligue (sic) passages 8a and 8b extend from the backs of the respective cylinders 3 to intermediate portions of the passages 6a and 6b, respectively, to connect the cylinders 3 with the cylinders 2. The passages 8a and 8b are formed by a drill inserted in the respective cylinders 3 before they are closed by the plugs 4 (emphasis added).

In contrast, Applicants state in their application on page 2:

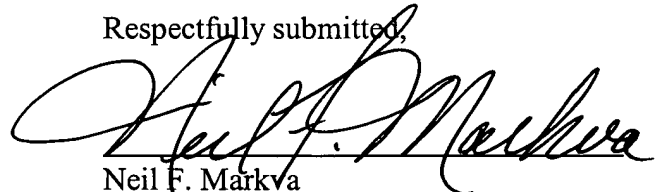
U.S. Patent 6,367,595 discloses a mono-bloc caliper having symmetrically disposed hydraulic fluid passageways on opposed sides of piston cylinders. Handling of the casting in the finishing operation is not minimized, however. For fluid transport passageways are drilled from different directions to require excessive handling to produce the finished cast brake caliper.

The particular distinction between the two mono-block brake calipers is made in the substitution of cast-in passageways for drilled passageways that therefore eliminate costly, unnecessary handling of the part during manufacture. For this reason, Mori '595 does not anticipate the language of claim 22.

Request for an Interview

In view of the foregoing, if the examiner does not agree with Applicants regarding the lack of a showing of cast-in passageways in Mori '595, Applicants respectfully request that the undersigned attorney be contacted for an interview so that he can fully understand the examiner's position with respect to the reference as applied to claim 22. Hopefully, mutually agreeable language can be reached to place claim 22 in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



Neil F. Markva
Attorney for Applicants

8322-A Traford Lane
Springfield, Virginia 22152
(703) 644-5000